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United States Patent [19]**Foley**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,487,542**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jan. 30, 1996**[54] **AUTOMATICALLY-SCORING GOLF GAME**[76] Inventor: **Thomas P. Foley**, 518 Red Oak Dr.,
Severna Park, Md. 21146[21] Appl. No.: **408,044**[22] Filed: **Mar. 21, 1995**[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **A63B 69/36; A63B 67/02**[52] U.S. Cl. **273/176 FA; 273/184 R;**
273/186.2; 273/162 A; 273/213; 273/34 R;
273/176 E[58] **Field of Search** **273/186.2, 186.3,**
273/184 R, 185 R, 213, 162 A, 32 H, 176 FA,
176 R, 187.4[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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Primary Examiner—George J. Marlo*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Browdy and Neimark[57] **ABSTRACT**

A golf game uses radio signals from golf clubs to signal to a central computer for automatic score-keeping by the computer. Sensors in each hole also send signals to the computer on the completion of each hole play for each golfer. The golf clubs are distinguishable by the computer according to their radio frequencies or digital or other signal processing and coding encoding. The golf clubs include transmitters in their handles which emit radio signals when the clubs are struck against preferably special golf balls, which incorporate magnets or other sensed qualities in their structure; the clubs include magnetic or other corresponding sensors. Each player, upon starting the game, inputs his/her name or initials along with an identification of the specific club he/she has selected to use on the course. Scores are reported optionally at each hole, and a final score is reported by the computer at the conclusion of play.

20 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets